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of a photoreceptor to which a uniform potential is being given by a corona discharger, the method comprising:

a [course-division] first potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities obtained by [coarsely] dividing a predetermined laser intensity at first intervals, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities, wherein each of said potentials corresponds to one of said plurality of laser intensities;

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a [fine-division] second potential detecting step of (i) [further finely] dividing[,] the predetermined laser intensity at second intervals so as to set a plurality of laser intensities, wherein said second intervals are smaller than said first intervals, and said plurality of laser intensities are in [the vicinity of] a range including a laser intensity corresponding to a potential selected from the potentials detected at the first potential detecting step, and wherein the selected potential [which] is [a nearest] closest, [to a predetermined set potential] out of the potentials detected at the [course-division] first potential detecting step, to a predetermined set potential, [the predetermined laser intensity to set a plurality of laser intensities,] (ii) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities thus set, and (iii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities; and

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a step of (i) repeating the [fine-division] second potential detecting step until there is obtained a potential equal to or substantially equal to the predetermined set potential, and (ii) setting, as the maximum intensity, the laser intensity corresponding to the potential thus obtained.

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2. (Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method of adjusting a maximum intensity of a laser exposure mechanism for irradiating laser light to a surface of a photoreceptor to which a uniform potential is being given by a corona discharger, the method comprising:

a first potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities set at first intervals, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities;

a second potential detecting step of (i) exposing photoreceptor surface portions to laser lights of a plurality of laser intensities which are set, at second intervals smaller than the first intervals[, in the vicinity of] and are in a range including a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first potential detecting step, a potential which is [nearest] closest, out of the potentials detected at the first potential detecting step, to a predetermined set potential, and (ii) detecting potentials of the photoreceptor surface portions exposed to the laser lights of the plurality of laser intensities; and

*Conceded
Amended
§ 1*

a step of setting, as the maximum intensity of the laser exposure mechanism, a laser intensity with which there has been detected, at the first or second potential detecting step, potential equal to or substantially equal to the predetermined set potential.

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§ 2*

4. (Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 2, wherein

the laser intensities set at first and second potential detecting steps have values selected from a plurality of laser intensities obtained by dividing [the] a predetermined laser intensity by a predetermined number.

5. (Amended) A laser intensity adjusting method according to Claim 4, wherein

the predetermined laser intensity is set to a value which is [considered to be] greater than a suitable maximum intensity.

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the above-identified application and the Office Action dated March 29, 2000.